

From: [Lindsay, Claire \(DPH\)](#)
To: [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#); [RivamonteMesa, Abigail \(BOS\)](#); [Barnett, Monica \(BOS\)](#); [Chung, Lauren \(BOS\)](#); [Morris, Geoffrea \(BOS\)](#); [Quan, Daisy \(BOS\)](#); [Nguyen, Rita \(DPH\)](#); [Wong, Greg \(DPH\)](#); [Patil, Sneha \(DPH\)](#); [Validzic, Ana \(DPH\)](#)
Subject: 9/29 Budget & Finance: DPH Item
Date: Monday, September 27, 2021 9:25:26 AM

Hello Supervisors Haney, Safai and Mar,

The Department of Public Health (DPH) will request approval for one (1) item at the September 29th Budget & Finance Committee meeting. Please see below for a brief description of the item and our DPH representative who may be contacted should you have any questions.

Agenda item #2 – File no. 210942 - Accept and Expend Grant - Hellman Foundation – Hellman Foundation Grant - \$405,000 - Resolution authorizing the Department of Public Health to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$405,000 from the Hellman Foundation for participation in a program, entitled “Hellman Foundation Grant,” to help bridge the divide between healthcare systems and the food community through the innovation of providing “food as medicine” through clinic-based food “pharmacies” for the period of May 1, 2022, through May 1, 2025.

- **Description:** The San Francisco Health Network’s low-income patients bear a disproportionately high burden of food insecurity and health consequences such as hypertension and diabetes. Improving the availability and consumption of healthy foods, including produce and whole grains, would have significant impacts on this public health challenge. According to a recent study led by researchers at UCSF, HIV positive people who received healthy food and snacks for six months were more likely to follow their medication regimens. The study also found that people with type 2 diabetes were less depressed and less likely to make trade-offs between food and healthcare. Food as Medicine seeks to bridge the divide between health care systems and the food community including the SF Marin Food Bank, farmers’ markets, and grocery stores. This partnership can transform and sustain the eating habits of low-income patients accessing healthcare services from community clinics in San Francisco. The collaboration intends to do this through the innovation of providing “food as medicine” through clinic-based food “pharmacies”.
- **DPH Representative:** Rita Nguyen, MD | Acting Deputy Director, Population Health Division | San Francisco Department of Public Health | rita.nguyen@sfdph.org

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Claire

Claire Lindsay, MPH

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